

VICTORIA IS DEAD.

The Beloved Queen is No More and Edward VII. Reigns in Her Stead.

MOST STUPENDOUS CHANGE IN HISTORY

The End of a Career Never Equalled by Any Woman Came in a Simply Furnished Room.

Around the Bedside of the Dying Ruler Were Gathered Almost Every Descendant in Her Line.

From All Parts of the World There Are Pouring Into Osborne House Messages of Condolence—Remains Will Be Taken to Windsor on Saturday.

Cowes, Isle of Wight, Jan. 23.—Queen Victoria is dead and Edward VII. reigns.

The greatest event in the memory of this generation, the most stupendous change in existing conditions that could possibly be imagined, has taken place quietly, almost gently, upon the anniversary of the death of Queen Victoria's father, the duke of Kent.

The end of this career, never equalled by any woman in the world's history, came in a simply furnished room in Osborne house. This most respected of all women, living or dead, lay in a great four-posted bed and made a shrunken atom whose aged face and figure were a cruel mockery of the fair girl who in 1837 began to rule over England.

Portrait of the Prince Consort.

Around her were gathered almost every descendant of her line. Well within view of her dying eyes there hung a portrait of the prince consort. It was he who designed the room and every part of the castle.



KING EDWARD VII. (Known for Many Years as the Prince of Wales)

In scarcely audible words the white-haired bishop of Winchester prayed beside her as he had often prayed with his sovereign, for he was her chaplain at Windsor. With bowed heads the imperious ruler of the German empire and the man who is now king of England, the woman who has succeeded to the title of queen, the princes and princesses, and those of less than royal designation listened to the bishop's ceaseless prayer.

The Women Sobbed Faintly.

Six o'clock passed. The bishop continued his intercession. One of the younger children asked a question in a shrill, childish treble, and was immediately silenced. The women of the royal family sobbed faintly and the men shuffled uneasily. At exactly 6:30 Sir James Reid held up his hand, and the people in the room knew that the bishop had lost her queen. The bishop pronounced the benediction.

The queen passed away quite peacefully. She suffered no pain. Those who were now mourners went to their rooms. A few minutes later the inevitable element of materialism stepped into this pathetic chapter of international history, for the court ladies went busily to work ordering their mourning from London.

Wheels of the World Jarred.

The wheels of the world were jarred when the announcement came, but in this palace of Osborne everything pursued a usual course. Down in the kitchen they were cooking a huge dinner for an assemblage the like of which has seldom been known in England, and the dinner preparations proceeded just as if nothing had happened.

The body of Queen Victoria was embalmed and will probably be taken to Windsor Saturday. The coffin arrived Tuesday evening from London. It was thought that the queen was dying about 1 in the afternoon, and carriages were sent to Osborne cottage and the rectory to bring all the princes and princesses and the bishop of Winchester to her bedside.

The Beginning of the End.

It seemed then very near the end, but when things looked the worst the queen had one of the rallies, due to her wonderful constitution, and opened her eyes and recognized the prince of Wales, the princess and Emperor William. She asked to see one of her faithful servants, a member of the household. He hastened to the room, but before he got there the queen had passed into a fitful sleep.

Four o'clock marked the beginning

of the end. Again the family were summoned, and this time the relapse was not followed by recovery.

Breathed Her Last.

The prince of Wales was very much affected when the doctors at last informed him that his mother had breathed her last. Emperor William, himself deeply affected, did his best to minister comfort to his sorrow-stricken uncle, whose new dignity he was the first to acknowledge.

From all parts of the world there are still pouring into Cowes messages of condolence. They come from crowned heads, millionaires, tradesmen and paupers, and are variously addressed to the prince of Wales and the king of England.

Emperor Will Attend the Funeral.

Emperor William's arrangements are not settled. His yacht arrived here Wednesday, but it is believed he will not depart until after the funeral. Several other royal personages are likely to be present at the function.

London, Jan. 23.—Telegrams have been dispatched to all members of the house of commons urging them to attend at St. Stephens Wednesday.

A special order has been issued by the war office discontinuing all bugle and drum calls until further notice.

The Queen's Enormous Fortune.

Absolute silence reigned Tuesday night in the vicinity of Buckingham palace and Marlborough house. A small bill signed "Balfour" was posted outside, announcing the demise of the monarch. Everywhere Tuesday night the one topic of conversation was what would happen under the new reign. Much interest was evinced in the way in which the enormous fortune of the dead queen would be distributed, the general notion being that Osborne house would go to Princess Beatrice, and that she and Princess Christian would come into a considerable portion of Victoria's wealth.

King Edward's Residence.

The probability that King Edward will take up a practically permanent residence in Buckingham palace was much canvassed. This is a question that comes very much home to Londoners. Queen Victoria's preference for Balmoral castle and Osborne house has been a complaint of long standing in the metropolis, and it is hoped that the new reign will see a change in this respect. The presence of the court in London would give a brightness and gaiety which have long been absent.

Not until Queen Victoria has been laid to rest beside the prince consort at Frogmore will the theaters or music halls reopen. Moreover, business will come to a practical standstill.

REGRET AND SYMPATHY.

Congress Adopted Suitable Resolutions, and the House Adjourned Out of Respect.

Washington, Jan. 23.—The house Tuesday adopted a resolution expressing profound regret and sympathy for the English people on account of the death of Queen Victoria. The president was requested to communicate the expression to the British government, and, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the queen, the house immediately adjourned. The action of the house was particularly impressive in that the resolution was adopted without a word of dissent or debate. The resolution followed the precedents and was in almost the identical language of the resolution adopted upon the occasion of the deaths of the president of the French republic and the czar of Russia.

The announcement of the death of Queen Victoria Tuesday, conveyed unofficially to the senate, was recognized by that body in the adoption of an appropriate resolution, which was ordered to be engrossed and forwarded to the prime minister of Great Britain.

THE LEGISLATURES.

Several of Them Adopt Resolutions of Respect to the Memory of Queen Victoria and Adjourn.

Little Rock, Ark., Jan. 23.—The house Tuesday afternoon adopted a motion to adjourn out of respect to the memory of Queen Victoria.

Topeka, Kan., Jan. 23.—The Kansas legislature Tuesday adopted concurrent resolutions of respect to the memory of Queen Victoria.

Sacramento, Cal., Jan. 23.—The senate adopted the following resolution: "That when the senate adjourn it does so out of respect to the memory of Queen Victoria, late queen of Great Britain and Ireland and empress of India, and as a mark of sympathy with that sentiment which in the presence of death makes all the world kin."

San Francisco, Jan. 23.—Out of sorrow for the death of the queen of England, flags here are flying at half mast, and pictures of her majesty, draped in mourning, are displayed. Memorial services will be held in many of the churches of the city.

Salem, Ore., Jan. 23.—The Oregon legislature adjourned Tuesday afternoon on account of the death of Queen Victoria.

Empress Frederick Informed.

London, Jan. 23.—"The news of her mother's death was tenderly broken to Dowager Empress Frederick late Tuesday evening," says a dispatch to the Daily Mail from Frankfurt. "It was a terrible shock, but the empress is bearing up bravely. The trials for the last few days, however, have ex-

ercised a most prejudicial effect upon her health, which causes serious anxiety."

Mourning at The Hague.

The Hague, Jan. 23.—The Dutch press printed the news of the death of Queen Victoria with mourning borders. The court will go into mourning, but it is probable that there will be no change in the arrangements for the marriage of Queen Wilhelmina.

GREAT QUEEN'S LIFE.

She Was Born in Poverty—Ascension to the Throne of England—Her Marriage to Prince Albert.

The year 1817 was a memorable one in the history of England. Scotland had the prospect of a country which had known no serious hitch or obstacle for a century in more seriously menacing the destinies of a constitutional monarchy that had stood the storms of 80 years enveloped in a more formidable storm.

The death of the Princess Charlotte opened up the prospect of succession to the throne to the youngest son of George III., and had inspired him with a desire to marry. As yet the only sons who had taken wives were the duke of York, who had children, and the duke of Cumberland, whose first living child was not born till 1819.

The third brother was Edward, duke of Kent, then 40 years of age. He was not on terms of ordinary friendship with any of his brothers. Suddenly he determined to marry.

Victoria, daughter of Duke Franz of Saxe-Coburg, at that time 22 years of age, had taken the duke's fancy. On July 11, 1818, she became the wife of the duke of Kent, the future mother of the future queen of England.

He Was Poor.

When the duke was informed by his consort that he had the prospect of an heir, it was with a sigh that he should be born on English soil. The journey was attended with difficulty, for his grace was much pressed for ready cash. In the spring of 1819, however, the journey was made. The duke and duchess were installed at Kensington palace, then, and there, a place of residence for the members and proteges of the royal family, and on May 24, 1819, "a pretty little princess, plump as a partridge, was born." The duke was delighted with the child. He would dandle and caress her, and then hand her to the arms of admiring spectators, with the caution, "Take care of her, for she will be the queen of England." His grace did not live to enjoy his parental happiness long.

It had been the wish of the two members of the family who died in the course of 1820. The duke believed the prophecy implicitly, but he applied it to his own wife and child. He had gone to the sheltered watering place of Bournemouth, in Devonshire, "to cheat," as he said, "the doctors for a day here and there, when taking a walk, wet and to catch cold. Acute inflammation of the lungs supervened and carried him off."

The poor widow found herself, owing to the duke's considerable debts, in a very uncomfortable position at the time of his death. Her brief reign was ended by her return to Kensington, where she henceforth devoted herself to the education of her child, Queen Victoria.

Prophecy Fulfilled.

Six days after the death of the duke of Kent the prophecy above mentioned was completely fulfilled by the death of his father, George III. On Monday, the 29th, the new sovereign, the prince regent, was proclaimed George IV. The birth of the new king was precarious; his age was advanced; he had no legal heir. The duke of Kent, the duke's wife, and the duke's daughter, the princess, were all dead. The duke's daughter, the princess, was born in 1819, and his duchess was in a declining state. The duke of Clarence, the next in order, was of ripe age, and had two daughters born to him. Each of them had died in infancy, but further issue, though not probable, was still an uncertain contingency. The next in succession was the infant princess at Kensington palace. Every year as it passed by made it more apparent that if the life of the royal babe were spared, she would be the last princess to wear the crown of England.

On August 30, 1836, King William, who had the throne at the death of George IV., died. His son, the duke of Clarence, then seven years as William IV.

There was one person whom the king detested even more than his mother, the mother of the princess, the duchess of Kent, who had not been sparing in her criticisms of the royal family. She had met from the royal family in England. The duchess had applied for a suit of apartments for her own use in Kensington palace, and had been refused by the king. She appropriated the rooms notwithstanding the denial.

Denounced Her Mother.

When replying to a speech in which his health had been proposed, the king burst forth in a bitter tirade against the duchess.

"I trust in God," he exclaimed, "that I may have the satisfaction of leaving the royal authority on my death to the personal exercise of that young lady (pointing to the princess)—the heiress presumptive of the crown—and not in the hands of a person now near me who is surrounded by evil advisers, and who is herself incompetent to act with propriety in the action which she is about to place. I have no hesitation in saying that I have been insulted—grossly and continually—by that person, but I am determined to endure no longer a course of behavior so disrespectful to me."

The king particularly complained of the manner in which the princess had been prevented from attending at court by her mother.

"For the future," he said, "I shall insist and command that the princess do upon all occasions appear at my court, as it is her duty to do."

Having begun with an anathema the king ended with a benediction, speaking of the princess and her future reign. A tone of benevolent interest was in the effect, however, which the royal utterances produced was alarming. The queen, who had been in deep distress, the princess burst into tears, the duchess of Kent said not a word, but soon after leaving the room announced her immediate departure, and ordered her carriage.

There was but one event which his majesty wished to live to witness in his "God-forsaken realm." He devoutly prayed that he might live till the Princess Victoria was of age. His prayer was just granted, but only just.

It was but a unit of 12 years old that the Princess Victoria was permitted to know the high destiny reserved for her, and even then the knowledge came in an almost accidental manner.

Assailed a Lord.

Meanwhile the future husband of the princess and her cousin was growing up in Germany. Prince Albert, the son of the duke of Coburg, was born at Rosenau in the August of the same year as Princess Victoria, and it is a curious coincidence, considering the future connection of the children, that Mrs. Siebold, the accoucheuse who attended the duchess of Coburg at the birth of the young prince, had only three months before attended the duchess of Kent at the birth of the princess. "How pretty the little Mayflower," writes the grandmother both of Albert and Victoria, the dowager duchess of Coburg, to the duchess of Kent, "will be when I see it in a year's time. Siebold can not sufficiently describe the dear little one. It is the Mayflower above spoken of was, of course, the Princess Victoria. From a very early period the dowager duchess permitted herself to entertain the hope that her two grandchildren would thereafter become man and wife."

On February 10, 1821, not quite 12 years of age, she attended her first drawing room. "Lady Jersey," writes the amusing Mrs. Greville, "made a scene when Lord Durham, the duke's son-in-law of the room and said: 'Lord Durham, I hear that you have said things about my daughter which I do not like. I am sure that you call upon me to-morrow with a witness to hear my positive de-

nial, and I hope that you will not repeat such things about me.' She was in a fury, and he in a still greater. He muttered that he should never set foot in her house again, which she did not hear, and after delivering herself of her speech she flounced back again to her seat, merrily proud of her exploit. It arose out of her saying that she would make Lady Durham demand an audience of the queen to contradict the things which Lady Jersey said of her, and to other Wag allies. These were days in which every spirit ran high, and penetrated the whole of society in England. Within two or three years of this time Princess Victoria had taken her place in that society as the heiress to the English throne.

For national purposes the princess completed her majority on the 18th anniversary of her birth.

On June 2, nine days after the event had taken place, the king was desperately ill and died on June 20.

The Coronation.

The king died at 2:30 on the morning of June 20, and the young queen met her consort at Kensington palace at 11 A.M. the same day. After having received the two royal dukes, the two archbishops, the chancellor and the prime minister, Lord Melbourne—the proclamation was read to the council, the usual order passed, the doors were thrown open and the young queen entered.

Of the proceedings the clerk of the council wrote: "After she had read her speech, and taken and signed the oath for the security of the Church of Scotland, the two royal dukes first by themselves, and then the two old ladies, her aunts, knelt before her, swearing allegiance and kissing her hand. I saw her blush up to the eyes, as if she felt the contrast between their civil and natural relations, and this was the only sign of emotion which she evinced. Her manner then was very graceful and engaging. She kissed them both and rose from her chair and moved toward the duke of Sussex, who was furthest from her and too infirm to reach her. She seemed rather bewildered at the multitude of men who were sworn and who came after another, to kiss her hand, but she did not speak to anybody, nor did she make the slightest difference in her manner, or show any in her countenance any individual of any rank, station or party. I particularly watched her when Lord Melbourne and the ministers and lords approached her. She went through the whole ceremony, occasionally looking at Melbourne for instruction when she had any doubt, and with perfect calmness and self-possession, but at the same time with a graceful modesty and propriety particularly interesting and gratifying."

Her Engagement.

On October 14, 1840—that is, four days after her lover had reached Windsor—the queen informed Lord Melbourne that she had made up her mind as to her marriage. On the 15th she wrote to Lord Stockmar: "I feel that I know not how to begin my letter, but I think the news it will contain will be sufficient to insure your forgiveness. Albert has completely won my heart and all my affections between us this morning. I feel certain he will make me very happy. I wish I could say I felt as certain of making him happy, but I cannot say so. Uncle Leopold must tell you all about the details, which I have not time to do."

OUT ON BAIL.

The official and public announcement of the betrothal was not made either in Germany or England till the close of the year.

The prince arrived in England for his marriage on February 6, 1840. The marriage took place on February 10 in the chapel of St. James' palace. "The morning," writes Theodore Martin in his "Life of the Prince Consort," "had been well, though not brilliant, but the day was not to want the happy omen of that sunshine which came afterward to be proverbially known as 'queen's weather.' Such after the return of the bride party from the chapel the clouds passed off, the sun shone out with unusual brilliancy and the breeze was fresh and cool. The duke and duchess, who had reached the palace from Buckingham palace to Windsor castle to see the sovereign and her husband as they passed were more fortunate than those who had crowded the avenues of St. James' palace in the morning, heedless of rain and cold, to witness the bridal procession on its way to and from the chapel."

Notwithstanding the hearty efforts of the queen to identify herself with her subjects and to promote their welfare, three attempts had been made upon her life. An insane post boy, Edward Oxford, fired a pistol at her, missing, and a man driving on a Constitutional hit her. The attack was repeated by one Francis with a similar weapon on nearly the same spot. The pistol ball missed under the carriage. About two months after this a hunchback named Bean similarly assailed the queen's coach, but was prevented from accomplishing this crime by a boy, Dasset, who happened to be near.

THE MARKETS.

Flour and Grain.

Cincinnati, Jan. 22.—Flour—Spring patent, \$3.95@4.35; fancy, \$3.45@3.65; family, \$3.05@3.30; winter family, \$2.65@3; fancy, \$3.25@3.60; patent, \$3.75@4; extra, \$2.20@2.40; low grade, \$1.90@2.10; northwestern rye, \$2.90@3.19. Wheat—Sales: No. 3 red, track, at 76c. Corn—Sales: Mixed ear, track, at 41½c; No. 2 mixed, (nearly yellow), track, at 39½c. Oats—Sales: Rejected mixed (poor), track, at 25c; No. 2 mixed, track, at 27c; do (choice) at 27½c.

Live Stock.

Cincinnati, Jan. 22.—Hogs—Select shippers, \$3.35; select butchers, \$3.32½@3.35; fair to good packers, \$3.20@3.30; fair to good light, \$3.10@3.35. Cattle—Fair to good shippers, \$4.40@4.75; good to choice butchers, \$4.25@4.75; fair to medium butchers, \$3.35@4.30. Sheep—Extras, \$4; good to choice, \$3.40@3.60; common to fair, \$1.50@2.25. Lambs—Extras, \$5.75; good to choice, \$5.25@5.55; common to fair, \$3.50@5. Veal Calves—Fair to good light, \$6.50@7.25; common and large, \$4@6.25.

President Formally Notified.

Washington, Jan. 23.—Formal notice of the queen's death was communicated by Lord Pauncefote to the president through Secretary Hay on Tuesday afternoon. It contained the simple announcement of the fact of death as sent to the ambassador by Lord Lansdowne, the British secretary of state for foreign affairs.

May Bring the Emperor to Peking.

Tien-Tsin, Jan. 23.—It is reported in German circles that, unless the peace negotiations are satisfactorily considered early next month, a strong international expedition will be organized to bring Emperor Kwang Su and Prince Tuan to Peking.

OPERA HOUSE FIRE.

The Grand, Cincinnati's Finest Theater, Guttled by Flames Following an Explosion.

A LARGE AUDIENCE WAS ENDANGERED.

By Exercising Marvelous Coolness the Entire Crowd Escaped in Safety Without Serious Accident.

The Fire Spread to the Mechanics' Institute and the Butler Building, Adjacent, Which Were Badly Damaged.

Cincinnati, Jan. 23.—The grand opera house, Cincinnati's finest theater, was gutted by fire, which broke out soon after the curtain went up on E. H. Sothern's production of "Hamlet" Tuesday evening. By the exercise of marvelous coolness, the entire audience, which filled the theater, escaped in safety and without serious accident.

The flames spread northward with marvelous rapidity, and in an incredibly short space of time the Butler building, facing on Sixth street; the recently remodeled Ohio Mechanics' institute, at Sixth and Vine, and the rear of the Giffs' engine house were in flames, despite the work of practically all of Cincinnati's fire department.

Many Thrilling Escapes.

There were many thrilling escapes among the supers on the stage, and among those in the Cincinnati gymnasium, which occupied the top floor of the opera house.

The overturning of a lamp in a dressing room, which an actress was using to heat her curling irons, is thought to have started the blaze.

The theater was crowded, and the evening performance of E. H. Sothern and Virginia Harned in "Hamlet" had begun, when the fire broke out.

A rush for every means of exit followed, and great coolness was displayed.

A General Alarm.

The first alarm was given at 8:10 o'clock, and was quickly followed by a ten-blow alarm, which was responded to by all the engines in the city. In 20 minutes it was evident that the building was beyond saving. At 9 o'clock it looked as though the whole block bounded by Vine and Race and Fifth and Sixth streets was doomed to complete destruction.

Shortly after the conflagration started a loud report was heard in the vicinity of the stage, and it was rumored that the stage chemicals had exploded. The excitement in the theater was intense.

Sothern at once went before the footlights and said that there was no danger, but the crowd had started for the doors.

Rescued a Woman.

An aged woman in the parquet was trampled under the feet of the panic-stricken people. A man braced himself against the crowd and, picking her up, literally threw her over the brass railing at the rear of the parquet.

Mrs. John Gettleton, Miss Binswanger and Joseph Gettleton were in the balcony when a servant from Dexter's hotel, at Seventh and Vine, placed a ladder to the window, and the three descended it to safety. Part of the opera house wall on the alley side fell at 9 o'clock with a terrific crash. A number of firemen who were working in the alley were warned by the falling of bricks and escaped.

The Losses.

The total loss will foot up about \$500,000, as follows: Sinton estate (opera house), \$200,000; E. H. Sothern (properties), \$30,000; Haylin & Rainforth (fixtures), \$3,000; Joseph Butler (Butler building), \$50,000; Cincinnati gymnasium, \$12,000; Builders' exchange, \$500; Mechanics' institute (building), \$1,000; R. H. Weatherhead, \$500; S. Rosenthal (printer), \$50,000; Bruner Woolen Co., \$6,000; Procter & Collier Co., \$10,000; Achert & Henckel, \$35,000; Max Woehner & Co., \$25,000; American Process Engraving Co., \$12,000; Ilsen & Co., \$20,000; Rauche & Goldsmith, \$5,000; National Cash Register Co., \$100; Charles Meib (music), \$500.

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